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SASC
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27 June 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: MEETING BETWEEN NACC DEPUTATION AND SASC STAFFERS

1. At the direction of the Net Assessment Coordinating Committee (NACC), representatives of the principals assembled on 23 June and traveled to Capital Hill to meet with members of the Staff of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC). The NACC deputation was comprised of:

Col Scott Fisher, USAF (Net Assessments)

Col fnu Gay, USAF (Fisher's relief)

[redacted] USAF (DIA)

Col Jim French, USMC (J8)

Capt Ron St. Martin, USN (OSD(A)) and

Capt Tim Holme, USN.

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2. In addition to Jeff Smith, General Counsel to the SASC, the deputation met with Mark Robinson, representing the minority side, and Keith Hall of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI).

3. Jeff Smith opened the meeting by describing the ongoing effort to draft language for the Intelligence Appropriations Bill related to net assessments. Smith indicated that the plan was to include language that can best be described as an "atta-boy" with regard to what has been done to date and encouragement to do more in the future. They believed that it would be useful to list specific additional subjects for net assessments and Smith indicated that his recent conversation with Secretary Armitage confirmed DoD support for that approach.

4. Col Fisher then stated that we were "prepared to listen to what it is that you want" with respect to weapons systems net assessments. I was somewhat surprised that this open invitation to produce a shopping list was made, but Smith reacted by stressing that he was "not a programmatic type" and that "there was nothing contemplated in the law" regarding specifics for net assessments on weapons systems. Smith said that if they listed some general areas of concern, they would be of a nature that would allow either the DCI or SECDEF to decline to do them if they determined "that it's not feasible to do these". Fisher discussed the limitations of personnel assets and indicated that he thought the community could do "2 or 3" over a year and asked "what would be your priorities?".

5. Smith stressed again that he wasn't a "program type" - but that he thought Armor/Anti-Armor was one area. He recognizes that it's not a "system" net assessment and he's not even sure it would get the SASC where it needs to be. The second subject mentioned by Smith was The B1 against Soviet Air Defenses. He was advised that this was underway through a contract with IDA.

6. As an aside, Col Fisher commented that Andy Marshall had survived as long as he had because he was "diagnostic and not prescriptive". The SASC appeared as if it were seeking a prescription and they weren't likely to get it from planned net assessments.

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7. Mark Robinson asked if we were interested in providing draft language for the bill. Initially Col Fisher said that he would like to but on the walk back later, I advised against it and he agreed that there was inadequate time to staff an input. Capt St Martin stressed that we needed to know what the SASC wanted and provided six studies/assessments that had been done earlier:

Space Based EW Systems by Aerospace Corp.,
Strategic Communications by Rand,
Artillery by Ralph Cline for ASD(AE),
SAMS by Robert Daly for ASD(AE),
Radar Sensors by Charles Lerch for ASD(AE), and
Sea Based Air by NavAirDevCen for NAVMAT.

Mark Robinson remarked, after a quick scan, that these weren't what they wanted. They wanted to know "if a system will be successful".

8. Col [] brought up the subject of System Threat Analysis Report (STAR), which is a system created within DIA to validate service developed threat data for specific weapons systems. Capt St Martin quickly pointed out that "STAR doesn't answer the mail".

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9. In response to a specific request, Jeff Smith said that he would seek relief from the SASC from the requirement to submit the unclassified net assessment in September and the interim classified net assessment in October. Relief is sought because the same assessments are now going to be due in January as a result of pending Intelligence Appropriations Bill language which will require submission with the DoD budget request. Smith said that at the same time he sought relief, he would ask for permission to give us a copy of the draft report. He wasn't confident that he could get release permission. In response to an additional request from Col Fisher to have a 60 day lag between the budget submission and the supporting net assessments, Smith stated that he was reasonably certain that there would be little sympathy on the SASC for that but that he would ask.

10. My final impression was that, if the draft language contains specific requests, they will be:

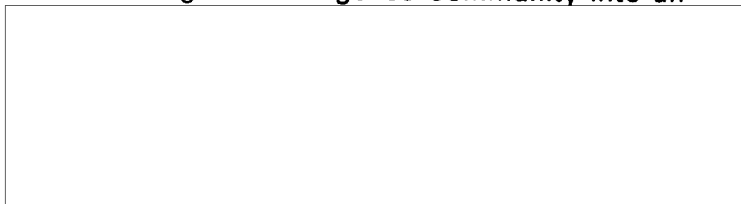
Low observables (already promised by the SecDef/DCI in the "plan" submitted to Congress

Armor/Anti-Armor, and

ASW (requested of the DNI by Congressman Aspin)

This is a comfortable mix representing the three services, and is applicable to weapons systems procurement without forcing the Intelligence Community into an advocacy role.

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THIS MFR WAS DONE BY A:



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*Rec'd from
28 June 88*



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